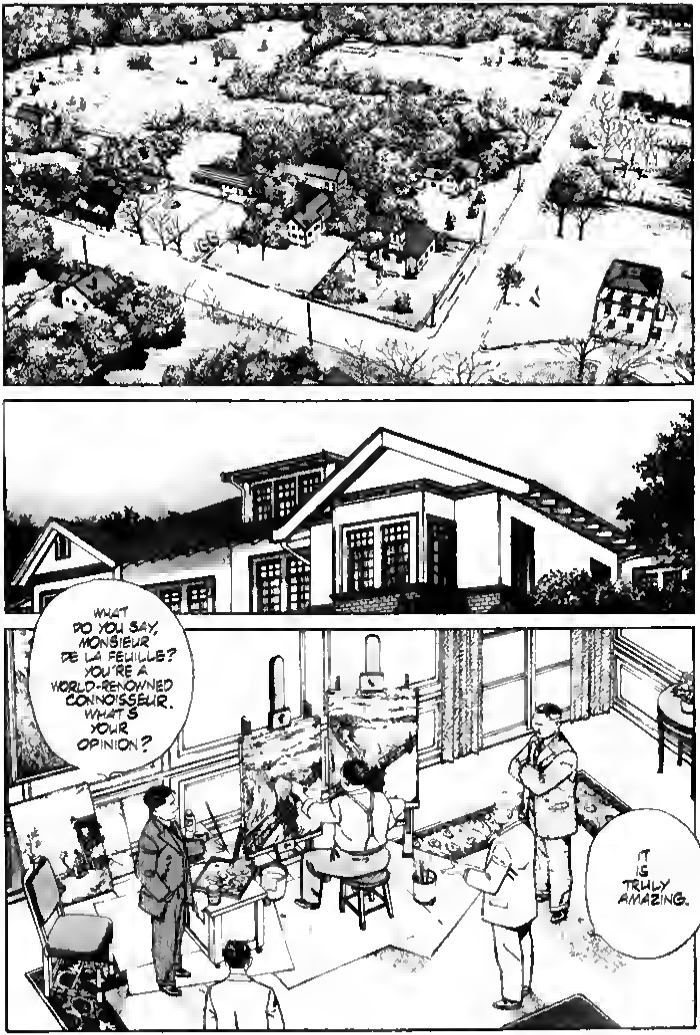
Chapter 4: THE CRY

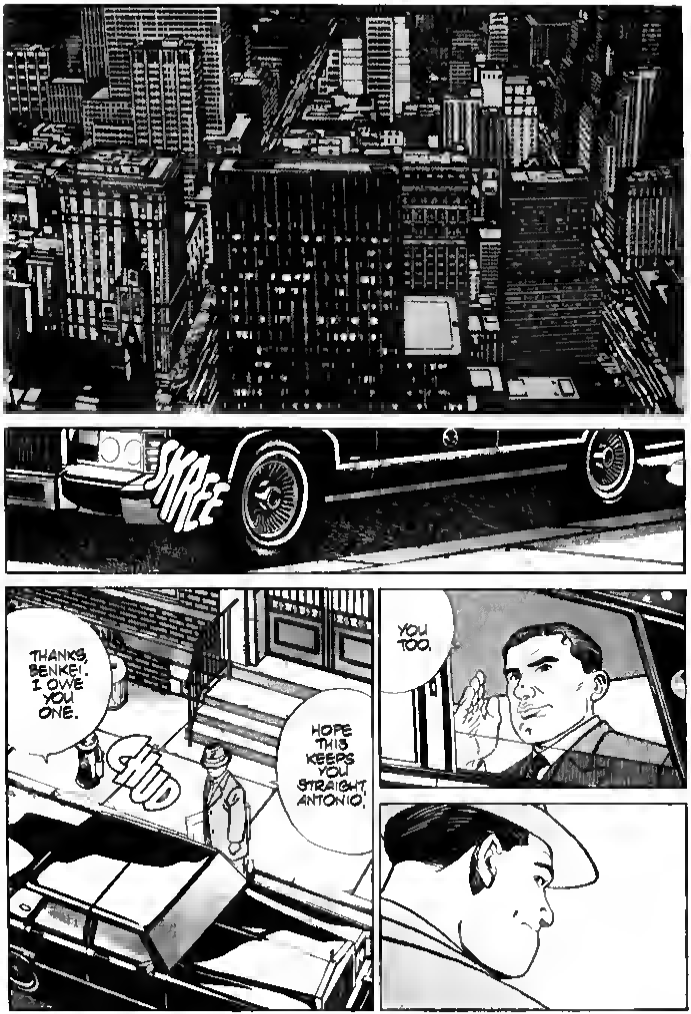

WHAT DO YOU SAY, MONSIEUR DE LA FEUILLE? YOU'RE A WORLD-RENOWNED CONNOISSEUR. WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?
IT IS TRULY AMAZING.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT MUNCH WROTE IN HIS DIARY AFTER HE PAINTED THE SCREAM ?
AS THE SUN SET, THE CLOUDS BECAME SOAKED IN RED.
I FELT A SCREAM PIERCING NATURE.
I FELT I COULD HEAR THIS SCREAM.
I PAINTED THIS IMAGE.
I PAINTED THE CLOUDS AS IF THEY WERE MADE OF BLOOD.

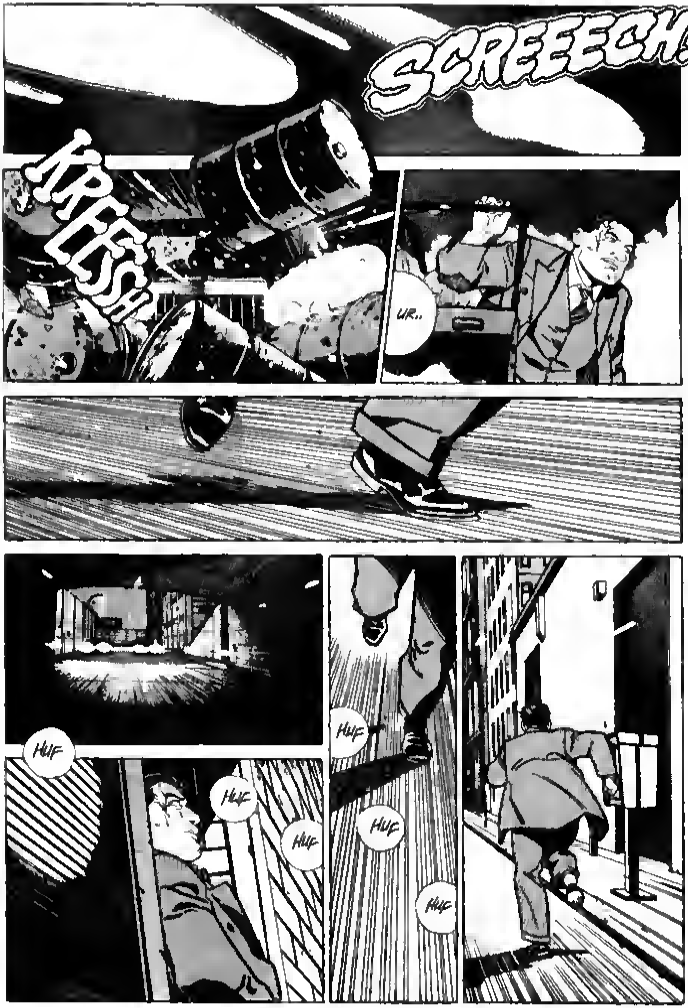
511
THE COLORS SCREAMED.
AMAZING. THIS ASIAN HAS COMPLETELY RECREATED THE EMOTIONS OF THE ANGST-RIDDEN NORWEGIAN.
I KNEW ANTONIO WOULD BE THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB.
UH, YOU MIND CHATTING SOMEWHERE ELSE?
I'LL BE FINISHED WITH THIS PRETTY SOON. YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF MY FEE AFTER THAT.
ANTONIO ...
WHERE'D YOU FIND THIS GUY?
NOW NOW, HE'S AN ARTIST.

YOU'RE PAINTING FOR ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL MEN IN THE CHINESE MAFIA.
HE'S ONE OF YOUR KIND. YOU SHOULD WORK HARD FOR HIM.
WHERE DOES THE ORIGINAL GO AFTER THIS?
BACK TO THE SICILIANS
TOO BAD... A MASTERPIECE... LOCKED UP BY THE MAFIA.
BENKEI, WE'RE IN A COMPLEX LINE OF WORK
SOMETIMES, A LITTLE LUXURY KEEPS US STRAIGHT
.....
MR. GANTINO ...
..LET'S HAVE A DRINK IN THE OTHER ROOM!

BENKEI ...
WHAT IS IT, MARIO?
YOU EITHER GOTTA BE FEARLESS
OR A TOTAL DUMBFUCK.
WHY?
PHOO!
GANTINO HEADS OPERATIONS ON THE ENTIRE EAST COAST. HE MIGHT LOOK LIKE A SWELL GUY, BUT HE MURDERED HIS WAY TO THE TOP.
WELL, HE MIGHT SEEM INVINCIBLE TO YOU...
BUT...
...THAT'S JUST AN IMAGE.


SKREE
THANKS, BENKEI. I OWE YOU ONE.
HUD
HOPE THIS KEEPS YOU STRAIGHT, ANTONIO.
YOU TOO.

thud
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARIA.
FWOP
YOU'RE LATE!
YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IS?


SCREEECH!
KRRSH
UR..
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF

RRRRR
WHAA
BENKEI!
IT'S ME! ANTONIO!
I'VE BEEN SET UP..!

BUDDA
BUDDA
Phone

CHOK!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
WHAT IS IT?
JUMP JUMP JUMP JUMP
BENKEI, IT'S ME, MARIO!
THEY WHACKED ANTONIO.. WE WAS SET UP!
Urgh
Urgh
WHEN WE WENT TO DELIVER THE PAINTING...
..WE GOT JUMPED BY FIVE CHINESE GUYS. ANTONIO GAVE 'EM THE PAINTING.

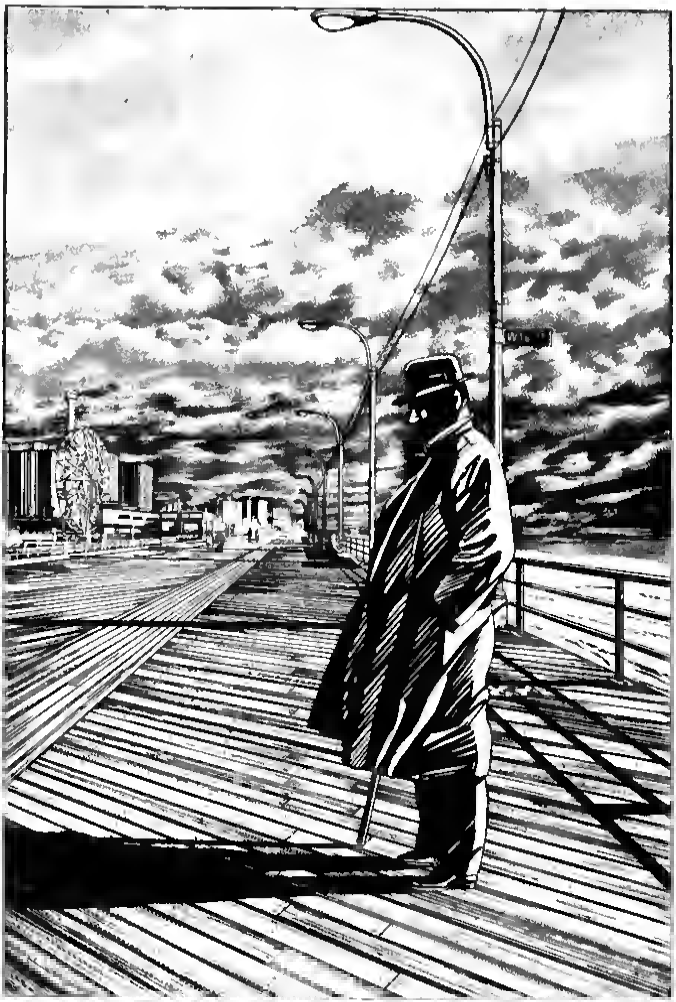
BUT GUESS WHO CHECKED IT FOR 'EM...
IT WAS THAT CREEP DE LA FEUILLE !
GANTINO'S UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS AGAIN.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE'S BEEN TRYING TO EXPAND HIS OPERATIONS FOR A WHILE NOW.
BUT HE GOT TIRED OF WAITING, SO HE JUST DECLARED WAR ON THE OTHER FAMILY, SO HE'D JUST HAVE AN EXCUSE TO CRUSH 'EM !
SKREECH
ANTONIO WAS AGAINST GANTINO FROM THE BEGINNING !

CHUD
EVER SINCE ANTONIO'S SISTER DIED FROM AN OVERDOSE, HE'S BEEN AGAINST DRUG-RUNNING.
BUT MY BOSS AND GANTINO JUST THOUGHT HE WAS IN THE WAY.
I DON'T GET IT.
WHY GO THROUGH ALL THESE SHENANIGANS JUST TO KILL ANTONIO?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. ANTONIO'S WIFE IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE BOSS IN PALERMO. THEY COULDN'T TOUCH HIM.
.....
SO GANTINO COOKED UP THIS PLOT.
HE GOT HIS HANDS ON THE MUNCH FROM THE ORIGINAL THIEVES, AND THEN HIRED ANTONIO TO DELIVER A FORGERY.
Gip
THEN HE ARRANGED IT SO IT'D LOOK LIKE THE CHINESE MAFIA KILLED HIM FOR IT.

RATTATTATTAT
SHOOT
MARIA, GET TO THE FIRE ESCAPE !!
FLIK
RATTATTA
TATAT

RATATATATATAT
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
BENKEI! YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, I'M FINE.

WE NEED TO FIND A PLACE TO HIDE OUT FOR A WHILE.
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT.
WHAT RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
GANTINO'S GONNA WHACK YOU!
I NEED MY PAINT SUPPLIES!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I'M GOING TO SET UP A MEETING WITH GANTINO.
YOU RE OUTTA YOUR MIND.
YOU GOT A DEATH WISH?
HE'S FINALLY GOING TO GET A TASTE
...OF MUNCH'S BLOOD!



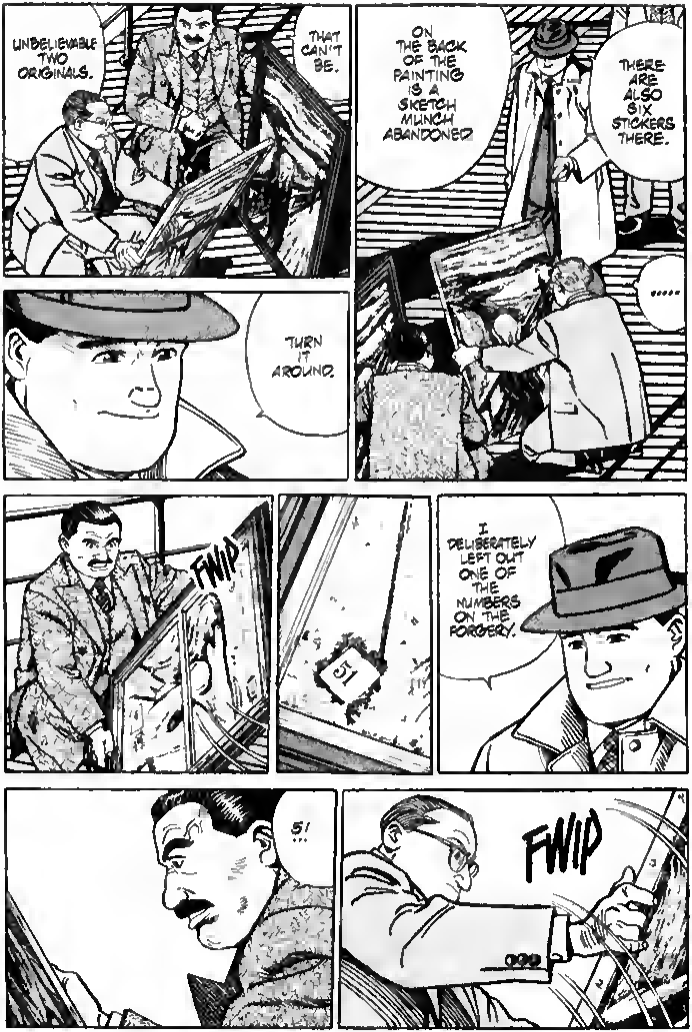
YOU'RE CALLING THE MAN WHO ORDERED YOU DEAD
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF GUTS.
IF YOU'D LAID LOW, I MIGHT HAVE CALLED OFF MY DOGS.
ACTUALLY, I WANTED TO HELP YOU OUT.
AFTER ALL, WHY OWN JUST A FORGERY?
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
I PAINTED TWO FORGERIES.
INTERESTING. WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
YOU KILLED ANTONIO TOO QUICKLY TO FIND OUT.

.....
THERE'S ALWAYS THE DANGER OF BEING KILLED IN THIS BUSINESS, SO...
...I LIKE TO HOLD ONTO THE ORIGINAL FOR A WHILE, AS INSURANCE.
AND YOU POSSESS THE ORIGINAL?
YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF. TOMORROW MORNING AT SIX O'CLOCK.
BRING YOUR PAINTING TO THE CONEY ISLAND BOARDWALK.
YOU TAKE ME FOR AN IDIOT?
I DON'T CARE IF YOU ARE OR NOT. ONCE THEY FIND OUT THE PAINTING YOU HAVE IS A FORGERY, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO BE WHACKED NEXT.
I FIGURED YOU'D BE MY HIGHEST BIDDER.
.....
I GUESS I WAS WRONG GOODBYE.
HOLD ON!

AMAZING...
HOW DO YOU PAINT WITHOUT LOOKING AT THE ORIGINAL?
MY HAND REMEMBERS
I DON'T GET IT. YOU HAVE THIS AMAZING TALENT...
SO WHY DON'T I PAINT MY OWN WORK?
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT FAME. IT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, THOUGH.

NICE OF YOU TO COME.
ENOUGH WITH THE ATTITUDE.
I'M GONNA TEACH YOU A LESSON TODAY.

HAVE A LOOK, MR CONNOISSEUR.
KRISK
.....
MR. GANTINO, MAY I SEE YOURS, NOW?!
WHAT?!
WELL, DE LA FEUILLE?


UNBELIEVABLE TWO ORIGINALS.
THAT CAN'T BE.
ON THE BACK OF THE PAINTING IS A SKETCH MUNCH ABANDONED
THERE ARE ALSO SIX STICKERS THERE.
.....
TURN IT AROUND.
FWIP
51
I DELIBERATELY LEFT OUT ONE OF THE NUMBERS ON THE FORGERY.
5! ...
FWIP

511
DE LA FEUILLE! WHICH ONE IS THE ORIGINAL?
.....
TH-THIS ONE IS...
WHAT?!
GIVE ME THAT!
SO THIS IS...
...THE ORIGINAL!!

TAKE A CLOSE LOOK, GIANTINO...
...AT MUNCH'S BLOOD-RED SKY!
FLIP

AIEE!
ARR..

.....
51
RRIP
511
MH-WHY... THAT'S
YOUR EYES HAVE GONE BAD, DE LA FEUILLE.